

THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL.

CONFEDERATE STATES OF AMERICA.

WILMINGTON, N. C., THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 1862.

We had yesterday heavy rains and the weather to day is much cooler than at any time last week.

We fear that the change has been rather injurious than otherwise. The damp, depressing, half-chilly sensation now prevailing, seems more likely to promote the progress of disease than to check it.

On enquiry we learn from Mayor Dawson that seven new cases of yellow fever have been reported since our last. The fever must be very malignant in its character for we hear of no recoveries. One of the recent cases is a colored woman, the first we have yet heard of.

Daily Journal, 22d inst.

The Health of Town.—Only two new cases of Yellow Fever have been reported up to twelve o'clock. It is proper to observe, however, that this is the report of only one physician. The physicians are so generally pressed as to be unable to make reports in the forenoon. We fear from what we can learn, that the disease is not decreasing.

Daily Journal, 23d inst.

We are notified that the business of the telegraph office in this place has been suspended so far during the present day and will continue so until further orders. No dispatches are received or sent. This will account for the absence of any telegrams from the South.—*Daily Journal, 24th inst.*

W. MILLER, Esq., a well-known and distinguished lawyer and orator, died suddenly at his residence in that city on Wednesday night last.

MILLER was a native of Virginia, but had resided in this State from his twelfth year. He was in his ninth year when he died.

A SALT SPRING.—We have from E. A. Hawes, Esq., a specimen of Salt made from the water of a spring in Bladen county. The Salt is very impure, as the spring was in a low swamp, and overflowed by the rains, and muddied. A stream of fresh water was running through the spring when Mr. Hawes dipped up the water, eight gallons of which made one quart of Salt. Any quantity of the water can be got.

WE LEARN that our young friend, Captain R. B. McRae, of the 7th Regiment, was wounded in the neck on Monday, the 1st inst., after having passed unscathed through the battles of the 23d, 29th and 30th of August, on all of which occasions the regiment was led by him. He is now getting better, being at a point in London county, some twenty miles from the battle ground.

THE WAR NEWS to-day seems to be rather more cheery. The number of prisoners recently taken at Richmond, Ky., at Manassas, at Harper's Ferry, and at Manassas, could not have been less than thirty thousand, to say nothing of some odd thousands bagged at other points, fully sufficient to cover all our losses in that way and leave the clear balance of thirty thousand prisoners in our favor, as the result of the operations of the last four weeks.

All the magnificent prophecies of the New York Herald are knocked on the head. The "rebels" are neither whipped nor assimilated, nor even driven permanently south of the Potomac. The tide has not yet turned against us. Our army is still unconquered and unconquerable, but that army still needs to be recruited and reinforced. It has passed through the ordeal of terrible battles and marches, only less terrible marches, and its ranks are thinned by fatigue, by sickness and by the sword.—*Daily Journal, 24th inst.*

WE begin now to understand somewhat more clearly than before, the position of things in Maryland, and the character and cause of the battles of Sunday and Monday last.

Jackson had crossed the Potomac into Virginia at a point above Harper's Ferry, and Longstreet, at a point below the Maryland side, completed its investment. D. H. Hill's corps held a position with the view of preventing any assistance being sent to the beleaguered forces.

McClellan was anxious to relieve General White at Harper's Ferry, and with this view he attacked Hill's corps with an overwhelming force and clearing the road to Harper's Ferry and to a junction with the forces there. Though McClellan handled Hill pretty roughly, yet he failed in his purpose. Harper's Ferry was not relieved, but was forced to surrender at the very time that Hill's division was holding McClellan's army in check. Our communications with Maryland are now through the Valley of Virginia, the enemy having been completely driven out of that section.

The theatre of war is now on the north side of the Potomac, the recent battles having been fought between Harper's Ferry and Hagerstown. After the capture of Harper's Ferry and the forces there, Jackson no doubt crossed again into Maryland, and united himself to the other portion of our army under General Lee.

The fights of Sunday and Monday were defensive on our part. They were brought on by McClellan, who sought to make his way to Harper's Ferry. D. H. Hill held his position with the view of preventing communication, which he did.

The fights of Wednesday and Thursday last would appear to have been offensive operations on our part—Harper's Ferry had fallen, there was no longer an enemy to the rear or on the flank of our army, and General Lee could now assume his own position.

As the forces of both armies are concentrated in Maryland, the operations there must be of the most important and decisive character. So far the telegraph reports, a decided advantage for the Confederate arms, which we trust will be maintained, for we cannot suppose but that the contest will be resumed and continued.

We are deeply pained to hear of the death of General Branch of this State. No officer in the army had done better service: no man had more completely overcome all the prejudices displayed against him than General Branch. He was rising rapidly into fame and reputation, which he shared with his gallant little brigade.

The Late War Movements.

Yesterday we heard from a private source of the prevalence of rumors in Richmond to the effect that our army under Gen. Lee had been very roughly handled in Maryland, and had decided got the worst of it.

Our dispatch from Richmond announcing fearful losses in the third regiment went to confirm this depressing intelligence.

The news first received in Richmond was from Northern sources, and in the usual inflated style of such things, claiming a great victory, and prophesying the speedy downfall of "the rebellion," the capture or destruction of Lee's whole army, and all that sort of thing. Longstreet was killed, Jackson prisoner, forty thousand Confederates were killed or wounded.

Most of all this was sheer flattery. Great and sanguinary battles had been fought, with fearful loss on both sides, though not as far as at first represented. Owing to want of supplies and deficiency in transportation General Lee was unable to maintain himself on the Maryland side, and was thus compelled to recross the Potomac at Shepherdstown, with the view of getting nearer his supplies.

Thus for the present ends the campaign into Maryland. That it was so brief, we fear to be attributed to the unreadiness or unwillingness of the Marylanders to rally to the standard of Confederacy. That this would be the case has gradually been impressing itself upon the public mind of the South. We may, however, be mistaken. Certain it is that our army is again on the south bank of the Potomac. But this is nearly all that is certain. Perhaps the account of the recent battles which we copy from the Richmond *Enquirer* is as nearly accurate as any other. It agrees substantially with the accounts and speculations in the other Virginia papers, but there is evidently much confusion, doubt and difficulty yet to be cleared up. We fear that as a whole, the result of our advance into Maryland will be unfavourable. But we must wait and see.

FROM NASSAU.—The British steamer *Argus* from Nassau, (N. P.) for a Southern port, got ashore on Stone Breaker on Friday last. The weather was very thick at that time, trying to get her position with regard to the accident took place. A boat left her with five passengers, among them Mr. ZACHARISON, formerly of New Orleans, which landed on Folly Island, where the passengers were left and the boat proceeded back to the ship, but when the former reached the position of the steamer the latter could not be found, she having no doubt come off and proceeded to sea during the absence of the boat. The crew of this last had succeeded in reaching this city, but the situation of the passengers is unknown, and as they were left on an uninhabited Island they may have a trying time. They were informed of their position and how they might reach Charleston, and it is hoped that they will get there safely.

Up to Wednesday last the yellow fever was prevalent at Nassau, and we regret to hear that several persons known in this city have died of it, among them Mrs. Lockwood, wife of Captain THOS. LOCKWOOD, of the steamer *Kate*; Mr. THOS. ELLIOTT, formerly of Beaufort, S. C., and Captain JOHN PRICE, of Wilmington, N. C. Captain ROBERT BROWN, of Wilmington, had died from the effects of an injury he had received before leaving that place. The British steamer *Leopard* from Charleston, and *Kate* from Wilmington, N. C., had both arrived at Nassau, as had also the schooner *Sue* from Glasgow.

A report had reached Nassau that the Yankee armed steamer *Santiago de Cuba*, which has been cruising around the Bahamas annoying neutral commerce, had accidentally and unintentionally fallen in with the Confederate war steamer *290*, Captain NOA, and that the Yankee had been handled so roughly as to compel her to resort to Key West for repairs. *290* had been fully manned the Yankees would have been among the things that were.—*Charleston Courier.*

SNOOK.—The army correspondent of the Charleston Courier says:

"That at least forty thousand pair of shoes are required to supply the wounded and disabled, and that these will be a great burden to human comfort in this respect, but it is not every man who is fortunate enough to 'foot' himself upon the field. It has become a trite remark among us that the number of men in the South is gone and it is said, but I do not know how true, that they had recently entered Maryland, and that they were very probably in Pennsylvania before this time.—*Mont. Ad.*

YANKEE BRUTALITY TO NEGROES.—A correspondent of the Richmond *Dispatch*, referring to the treatment of negroes by the Yankees, says:

"A large number were killed at Old Point during the last of July, for retribution. It is also stated that one of our batteries on the James river sank a barge in to it having 68 negroes on it, mostly from the lower counties of the state. The barge was fired into, and it is said, but I do not know how true, that they had recently entered Maryland, and that they were very probably in Pennsylvania before this time.—*Mont. Ad.*

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THE NEWS FROM THE WEST is not important. Things appear to be working favorably. We will look anxiously for further advices from our armies.

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PRIVATE RIGHTS and property will be respected, violence will be repressed, and order promoted, and all the private property used by the army will be paid for.

The commanding General appeals to all good citizens to aid him in these objects; and to all able bodied men to join the army to defend the sanctuary of religion and virtue—home, territory, honor and law—which are invaded and violated by an unscrupulous enemy, whom an indignant and irritated people are now about to chastise on their own soil.

The Government expects an immediate and enthusiastic response to this call. The country has been reclaimed for you from the enemy, by soldiers, many of whom are from distant parts of the State and Confederacy; and you will prove unworthy to possess so beautiful and fruitful a land if you do not now rise to retain and defend it.

The oaths which the invader has imposed upon you are void. They are immoral attempts to restrain you from your duty to your State and Government. They do not exempt you from the obligation to support your government and to serve in the army; and if such persons are taken as prisoners of war the Confederate Government guarantees to them the humane treatment of the usages of war.

By command of Major-General Loring. H. Fitzpatrick, Chief of Staff

GENERAL LORING'S ADDRESS TO HIS ARMY.

CHARLESTON, V. S., Sept. 4.

VIA GILES COURT-HOUSE, Sept. 18.

GENERAL ORDERS.—NO. 1.

The commanding general congratulates the army on the brilliant march from the Southwest to this place in one week, and on its successive victories over the enemy in the battles of the 23d, 29th and 30th of August. It will be immemorial in history that, overcoming the mountains and the enemy in one week, you have established the flag of the country to the outer borders of the Confederacy. National gallantry and patriotism have been displayed at a high level, and the conduct of the army has been marked by a spirit of chivalry and courtesy, and by a regard for the welfare of the enemy which is to be commended.

The following is a list of commanding officers killed and wounded in the engagement:

Gen. Stark, of Miss., commanding Jackson's division.

Brigadier General Branch of North Carolina, killed.

Brigadier General R. H. Anderson, wounded in hip, not dangerously.

Railroad Convention.

The Columbia South Carolinian furnishes the following report of the most important part of the business transacted by the railroad convention which assembled in that city on Thursday, 4th inst.

The business of importance will come before the Association of the railroads and the fact that the honor and interest of the Confederate States demand unusual exertions on the part of those who are made instruments in promoting the progress of Christian civilization, ought to secure a good attendance on the part of the faithful teachers of the school.

The location is a pleasant one, accessible by steam, the season being delightful, while the railroads facilities will be available to the delegates.

Friends of Education in North Carolina, let us not permit the enemies of the cause of our liberties to despair for a moment of the success of our glorious cause.

Let us meet again in Council, and mutual encouragement each other in our allotted and noble task of developing the moral power of our country.

C. H. WILLIAMS, Sup. Com. Schools, J. D. CAMPBELL, Recording Secy., S. L. COOPER, Corresponding Secy.

Sept. 19th, 1862.

The Press and Exemptions.

The Confederate Senate committed, Tuesday, the extraordinary inconsistency of exempting from military service the journeymen printers of newspapers, and refusing to exempt editors, even voting down an amendment that was offered exempting one editor of every paper. If the freedom and influence of the press are of as much importance as the majority conceded, they have taken a very singular way of proving their appreciation of it. What is a newspaper without an editor?

It is the business of journeymen printers merely to put in type what editors put in their hands, and to refuse exemption to editors is simply to suppress all newspapers.

We venture to say that the press of the South

has given an impetus to this Revolution, in the beginning, and a power in its progress, second only to that achieved by our arms. It has been very light and life of the Southern cause, and now the Senate proposes to put out this light, extinguish this life, and leave the people in the darkness and silence of the tomb. We hope the House of Representatives will put a veto on this oppressive action of the Senate, and secure the permanent welfare of our army.

The following resolution was also adopted, when the session adjourned:

"Received unanimously by this Convention. That our best endeavor for the future, as in the past, shall be given to the Confederate government in the transportation of troops and government, and we hereby request that the Convention, in its present session, make a compact with the government, by which the same may be specially designated at this time, to be used for the transportation of troops, and that the same be submitted to the government for its adoption.

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The official report of General S. B. Buckner, is relative to the defense and surrender of Fort Donelson, has been furnished the War Department, having been delayed until the present late day by the circumstance of his capture and long imprisonment by the enemy.

The report is too long to give entire in our columns, but the following extract, relative to the surrender, will not fail to be read with interest:

In a council of general and field officers, held after dark, it was unanimously resolved that if the enemy did not re-occupy, in strength, the position of Gen. Pillow, the army should effect its retreat, and orders to abide the regiments for that purpose were given by General Floyd. But as the enemy had, late in the afternoon, appeared in considerable force on the battle field of the morning, a reconnaissance was ordered, I think by General Pillow, under the instructions of Gen. Floyd. The report of this reconnaissance, made by Colonel Forrest, has been fully stated by Gen. Floyd and Pillow, and from what I have been able to learn since, I am satisfied the information was correct. Among other incidents showing that the enemy had not only re-occupied their former ground, but extended their lines still further to our left, is the fact that Overtown's cavalry, following after Forrest's, was cut off from their horses, and the Arkansas cavalry, who had crossed the river had crossed the stream on the river road.

When the information of our reinvestment was reported, General Floyd, Gen. Pillow, and myself, were the only members of the council present. Both of these officers have stated the views of the council, but my recollection of some of the incidents narrated differs so materially from that of General Pillow, that, without incurring any reflection upon either of those officers, I feel called upon to notice some of the differences between us. Both officers have correctly stated that I regarded the position of the army as desperate, and that an attempt to extricate it by another battle, in the sultry and exhausted condition of the troops, was almost hopeless. The troops had been worn down with watching, with labor, with fighting, many of them were frostbitten by the intensity of the cold; all of them were suffering and exhausted by their incessant labors. There had been no regular rations for a number of days, and scarcely any means of cooking. Their ammunition was nearly expended. We were completely invested by a force fully four times the strength of our own. In their exhausted condition they had not been able to march. An attempt to make a sortie would have been resisted by a superior force of fresh troops; and the attempt would have been the signal for the fall of the water batteries, and the presence of the enemy's guns sweeping with their fire, at close range, the positions of our troops, who would thus have been assailed in their front, rear and right flank at the same instant. The result would have been a virtual massacre of the troops, more disheartening in its effects than a surrender.

In this opinion General Floyd concurred; and I am certain that both he and I were convinced that General Pillow agreed with us in opinion. General Floyd then asked our opinion as to the practicability of holding our position another day. I replied that my right was already turned, a portion of my entrenchments in the enemy's possession; they were in position successfully to assail my position and the water batteries; and that with my weakened and exhausted force, I could not successfully resist the assault, which would be made at daylight by a vastly superior force. I further remarked that I understood the principal object of the defense of Doseon to be to cover the movement of General A. S. Johnston's army from Bowling Green to Nashville, and that if that movement was not completed, it was my opinion that we should attempt a further defense even at the risk of the destruction of our entire force, as the delay even of a few hours might gain the safety of General Johnston's force. General Floyd remarked that General Johnston's army had already reached Nashville. I then expressed the opinion that it would be wrong to subject the army to a virtual massacre when no good could result from the sacrifice; and that the General officers owed it to their men, when further resistance was unavailing to obtain the best terms of capitulation possible for them. General Floyd expressed himself in similar terms, and in his opinion I understood General Pillow to acquiesce. For reasons which he has stated, General Floyd then announced his purpose to leave with such portions of his division as could be transported in two small steamers which were expected about daylight. General Pillow addressing General Floyd then remarked that—

He thought that there were no two persons in the Confederacy whom the Yankees would prefer to capture than himself and General Floyd, and asked the latter's opinion as to the propriety of his accompanying General Floyd.

To this inquiry the latter replied, that it was a question for every man to decide for himself—General Floyd then addressed the same inquiry to me to which I remarked that I could only reply as General Floyd had done, that it was a question for every other to decide for himself, and that in my own case I regarded it as my duty to remain with my men and share their fate, whatever it might be. General Pillow, however, announced his purpose to leave when Gen. Floyd directed me to consider myself in command. I remarked that as capitulation would be as bitter to me as it could be to any one, but I regarded it as a necessity of our position, and I could not reconcile it with my sense of duty to separate my fortune from those of my command. It is due to General Pillow to state that some time after the command had been transferred to me and while preparations were making for his departure, he returned to the room and said to General Floyd and my self that he wished it understood that he had thought it would have been better to have held it another day in order to await the arrival of steamers to transport the troops across the river. I again recapitulated my reason for thinking it impossible to hold our position, and whatever may have been General Floyd's opinion, he certainly acquiesced with the belief that he again acquiesced in the necessity of a surrender.

It was now near daylight, of Sunday morning, the 16th. I ordered the troops back to their positions in entrenchments, and addressed a note, a copy of which is enclosed, to the Federal command, Brig. Gen. U. S. Grant. His reply is also transmitted.

The Third Louisiana, Whitfield's Legion, and the Third Texas cavalry, behaved with great gallantry, and were the greatest sufferers in the fight on Friday. Their Colonels were all wounded.

From the Savannah Republican, Getting Sober, but Still Illegible.

There is a thoughtful timeliness in all the recent effusions of the Yankee press touching the war. The utterance of their grand army for the second time, and the triumphant appearance of our victorious legions into Maryland, have humiliated the whole pack, and their bark has dwindled down to a whine. Occasionally they summon the courage to growl, but the operation is performed most feebly. At last they have seen the vanity of all their boasting. They have become sensible that they are dealing in the work of death with a better people than themselves. They feel whipped, and but little prospect of again "coming to time."

Yet the crazy fools are not wholly restored to their senses. They have not arrived at that stage of convalescence from lunacy when they will be able to philosophize on the sad experience of the past. They confess to a thorough drubbing on every occasion when we have met them in anything like equal combat, and even admit that in the recent battles we whipped and drove them across the Potomac with an army inferior in numbers. Company K.—Killed—Corporal J. A. Shultz, Private W. A. Petree, Wounded—Sergt. H. B. Newsom, Corp. W. M. Lanest, Privates W. C. Duggins, C. Reich, Wm. Lewis, G. G. on Sept. 1st, 1862, NEAR FAIRFAX C. H.

Wounded—Major B. Y. Graves, severely; Capt. P. D. Headly, slightly; Capt. J. F. Beall, slightly; Lieut. G. T. Clay, in, severely.

Total—20 killed, 74 wounded.

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Total—20 killed, 74 wounded.

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